

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1, cancel claim 8 and add new claims 11 to 18 such that the new claim set reads as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A collapsible loading ramp comprising:
 - at least ~~a pair of~~ a first longitudinal support structure and a second longitudinal support structure, each of the first longitudinal support structure and the second longitudinal support structure having an upper surface and each including a raised post extending from the upper surface;
 - a cross-member including a first aperture formed to fit over the raised post on the first longitudinal support structure and a second aperture spaced from the first aperture and formed to fit over the raised post on the second longitudinal support structure, the cross member thereby being formed to attach between the at least a pair of longitudinal support structures first longitudinal support structure and the second longitudinal support structure by removably engaging against over the posts to bear against the upper surfaces of the first longitudinal support structure and the second longitudinal support structure; and
 - the ~~at least a pair of longitudinal support structures~~ first longitudinal support structure, the second longitudinal support structure and the cross member each being separable from the others for disassembly and collapsing of the ramp.
2. (Original) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1 wherein the cross member includes a pair of side supports and extending therebetween a plurality of rungs.
3. (Currently amended) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 2 wherein the side supports include a first facing ~~sided~~ side and an opposite facing side and either the first facing side or the opposite facing side can be mounted against the longitudinal support structures.
4. (Original) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 2 wherein at least one connection between a rung and a side support permits flex therebetween.

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5. (Currently amended) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first longitudinal support structure ~~are~~ is foldable at a hinge.
6. (Previously presented) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 5 including a safety cable connected about the hinge such that the safety cable is pulled tight about the hinge when said longitudinal support structure is extended to prevent the hinge from overrotating when a load is applied to the ramp.
7. (Original) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 5 further comprising a shock absorber at the hinge.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the posts each include an angled head under which the cross members can be slid to be locked against lifting vertically off the post.
10. (Original) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a second cross member and the cross member and the second cross member are formed to stack together when in a stored configuration.
11. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1 wherein the raised posts are mounted on the first longitudinal support structure and the second longitudinal support structure.
12. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 11 wherein, in a collapsed position, the raised posts remain mounted on the first longitudinal support structure and the second longitudinal support structure and the first and second apertures are removed from over the raised posts.
13. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 2 wherein the side supports each include a channel extending substantially perpendicularly to the plurality of rungs.
14. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 13 wherein the channels are each formed to fit over one of the upper surface of the first longitudinal support structure and upper surface of the second longitudinal support structure.

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15. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 2 wherein the first aperture is formed through a first of the pair of side supports and the second aperture is formed through a second of the pair of side supports.

16. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 2 wherein at least one rung of the plurality of rungs defines a longitudinal axis and the at least one rung is attached to one of the pair of side supports by a pivotal connection that permits pivotal movement therebetween about the longitudinal axis.

17. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first longitudinal support structure comprises a first part, a second part, a hinge between the first part and the second part to permit the first longitudinal support structure to be folded about the hinge and a shock absorber positioned between and in contact with the first part and the second part to bias them into a slightly folded configuration.

18. (New) The collapsible loading ramp as claimed in 9 wherein the first aperture is sized to fit over both the raised post and its angled head.